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LETTER DATED 7 JUNE 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ALBANIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to report the following to Your Excellency:

It has become known from various sources that the ongoing negotiations aimed at finding a permanent denomination for the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia will, most likely, lead to the adoption of the name "Slavo-Macedonia".

The Albanians of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia have strongly opposed the name "Slavo-Macedonia" because it openly ignores the existence there of a very strong Albanian community which makes up nearly 40 per cent of the entire population of that country. Actually Albanians in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia have never been treated, in many respects, on an equal footing with the Slav population of that Republic. And now attempts are being made to sanction this fact in the very name of the country, in which they have been living for centuries as an autochthonous people.

That is why the Albanians of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia consider the proposed name as unacceptable and humiliating, and their deputies to the Parliament of that Republic, as well as all their political forces and parties, have firmly denounced it.

Owing to the historical inexactitude and the negative political implications of the suggested name, the Government of the Republic of Albania associates itself with the Albanians of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and their representatives in decidedly objecting to the name "Slavo-Macedonia".

I would be grateful, Mr. President, if you could have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Thanas SHKURTI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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